



THE BECERRA BULLETIN

News and Views from Washington to Los Angeles



December 17, 2007, WASHINGTON, D.C. — In a continued effort to bring news and relevant information about our federal government back to his home district in Los Angeles, Representative Xavier Becerra (CA-31), Assistant to the Speaker of the House and the only congressional member from Southern California who sits on the House Ways and Means Committee, brings you "The Becerra Bulletin," an e-newsletter filled with facts and information meant to stimulate thought and discussion about American economic policy and a host of other issues.

BY THE NUMBERS

HOUSE ENERGY BILL: A DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE FROM FOREIGN OIL

We are addicted to foreign oil. The American people know it, and President Bush admitted as much in this year's State of the Union Address. While the president's policy has been to drill for more oil and hope for the best, the House of Representatives, with a strong bipartisan vote of 235 to 181, took a major proactive step toward declaring independence from foreign oil on December 6 by passing the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. The cornerstone of this historic piece of legislation is a significant increase in the fuel efficiency standard for cars and trucks, to 35 miles per gallon by 2020. As the cost of oil continues to rise, this provision could save American families hundreds of dollars each year on gasoline. Additionally, this bill establishes for the first time that a percentage of our electricity come from renewable sources by 2020. It also invests in renewable energy through tax incentives for solar, wind, biomass, and geothermal technologies and cutting-edge energy research, resulting in the future creation of good-paying jobs in rural communities across the country. This legislation strengthens our national security by significantly reducing oil consumption, and goes a long way toward reducing the greenhouse gas emissions that continue to exacerbate the global warming crisis that threatens the security of the whole world. Here's a look at the significant impact this legislation would have:

35 miles per gallon by 2020 means...

- **4,000,000** fewer barrels of oil consumed every day;
- the equivalent of taking **28,000,000** cars and trucks off the road;
- **\$700-\$1000** savings per family per year; and
- **\$22,000,000,000** in net consumer savings by 2020.

Clean & renewable energy provisions mean...

- **9,000,000,000** gallons of renewable fuels will be in circulation by 2008, progressively increasing to **36,000,000,000** by 2022;
- **15 percent** of our electricity will come from renewable sources by 2020;
- American consumers will save a cumulative **\$18,000,000,000** on energy bills; and
- the reduction of up to **126,000,000** metric tons of global warming emissions every year — the equivalent of taking **15,000,000** cars off the road.

Total equivalent number of cars taken off the road by 2020... 43,000,000

SHORT TAKES — LOS ANGELES

STEP'ING INTO JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL

On November 20 Rep. Becerra visited a remarkable group of students at Jefferson High School who are participating in the Secondary Transition Education Program ("STEP"), which works to build self confidence among students and promote a greater sense of community at the school. The students participated in a mock congressional debate and vote during the visit.

Representative Xavier Becerra, 31st Congressional District, California

Assistant to the Speaker of the House of Representatives

Committee on Ways and Means

Subcommittee on Oversight, Subcommittee on Health & Subcommittee on Social Security

Committee on Budget

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